

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to insert a statement that the present application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/010296, filed September 16, 2003.

The specification has also been amended to replace the Sequence Listing as previously filed with the substitute Sequence Listing attached hereto as Exhibit A. Support for this amendment is found in the Sequence Listing as previously filed. Also attached hereto as Exhibit B is a computer readable form ("CRF") of the Sequence Listing.

Pursuant to 37 CFR. § 1.821(f), undersigned counsel hereby represents that, upon information and belief, the content of the paper copy and CRF of the Sequence Listing enclosed herewith are the same, and no new matter has been added. Entry of the Sequence Listing is respectfully solicited.

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits, and allowance of all the claims, respectfully, are requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Charles Avigiliano  
Charles Avigiliano  
Registration No. 52,578  
BRYAN CAVE LLP  
1290 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10104  
Phone: (212) 541-2000  
Fax: (212) 541-4630